

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

*Ninety-Third Legislature*

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1947

DAILY KENNEBEC JOURNAL  
AUGUSTA, MAINE

**HOUSE**

Wednesday, February 12, 1947.

The House met according to adjournment and was called to order by the Speaker.

Prayer by the Rev. Wesley Riedel of Augusta.

Journal of yesterday read and approved.

**Papers from the Senate  
Non-Concurrent Matter  
Tabled**

From the Senate: Bill "An Act to Institute a Land Use Survey" (H. P. 832) (L. D. 481) which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture in the House on February 5th.

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on Judiciary in non-concurrence.

In the House, on motion by Mr. Chase of Cape Elizabeth, tabled pending further consideration and assigned for later in today's session.

**Senate Reports of Committees  
Ought Not to Pass**

Report of the Committee on Judiciary reporting "Ought not to pass" on Bill "An Act relative to Night Hunting" (S. P. 59) (L. D. 116) as it is covered by other legislation.

Came from the Senate read and accepted.

In the House, read and accepted in concurrence.

**Ought to Pass**

Report of the Committee on Judiciary reporting "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to Fees of Expert Witnesses" (S. P. 50) (L. D. 22)

Report of same Committee reporting same on Bill "An Act to Dissolve the Portland and Rumford Falls Railway and the Portland and Rumford Falls Railroad" (S. P. 86) (L. D. 112)

Report of the Committee on Public Utilities reporting same on Bill "An Act relating to Certificates for the Operation of Busses" (S. P. 87) (L. D. 113)

Report of same Committee reporting same on Bill "An Act to Provide for the Maintenance of Ways Already Laid Out Which Cross Over or Under Railroad Tracks and Not at Grade" (S. P. 101) (L. D. 201)

Report of same Committee report-

ing same on Bill "An Act relating to Erroneous Charges by Public Utilities" (S. P. 99) (L. D. 199)

Came from the Senate the Reports read and accepted and the Bills passed to be engrossed.

In the House, Reports were read and accepted in concurrence and the Bills read twice and tomorrow assigned.

The following Bills and Resolves were received, and upon recommendation of the Committee on Reference of Bills, were referred to the following Committees:

**Appropriations and Financial Affairs**

Resolve in favor of Knox Memorial Association, Inc., for Support and Maintenance of "Montpelier" (H. P. 1045) (Presented by Mr. Lord of Camden)

(Ordered printed)

Resolve in favor of the town of Van Buren for a Secondary School Building (H. P. 1046) (Presented by Mr. Violette of Van Buren)

(Ordered printed)

Resolve to Authorize a Forest Survey for the State of Maine (H. P. 1047) (Presented by Mr. Webber of Bangor)

(Ordered printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

**Claims**

Resolve in favor of the town of Atkinson (H. P. 1048) (Presented by Mr. Burton of Milo)

(Ordered printed)

Resolve in favor of W. S. Christie, of Orneville (H. P. 1049) (Presented by same gentleman)

(Ordered printed)

Resolve to Reimburse the town of Hebron for Tuition Paid for Ronald Bishop (H. P. 1050) (Presented by Mr. Fuller of Buckfield)

(Ordered printed)

Resolve to Reimburse the town of Strong for Money Expended for State Paupers (H. P. 1051) (Presented by Mr. Jennings of Strong)

(Ordered printed)

Resolve in favor of John H. Perkins of East Brunswick (H. P. 1052) (Presented by Mr. Lacharite of Brunswick)

(Ordered printed)

Resolve in favor of Carrie M. Brawn, of Guilford (H. P. 1053) (Presented by Mr. Ross of Brownville Jct.)

(Ordered printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Resolve to Reimburse the town of Strong for Money Expended for James Black and Novell Littlefield (H. P. 1054) (Presented by Mr. Jennings of Strong)

Sent up for concurrence.

#### Education

Resolve in favor of Anson Academy (H. P. 1055) (Presented by Mr. Sharpe of Anson)

Resolve in favor of Lincoln Academy (H. P. 1056) (Presented by Mr. Palmer of Nobleboro)

Resolve in favor of Wiscasset Academy (H. P. 1057) (Presented by same gentleman)

Sent up for concurrence.

#### Federal Relations

Bill "An Act to Amend the Unemployment Compensation Law to Eliminate Double Penalties" (H. P. 1058) (Presented by Mr. Brown of Baileyville by request)

(Ordered printed.)

Sent up for concurrence.

#### Inland Fisheries and Game

Bill "An Act relating to Hunting and Trapping Seasons" (H. P. 1059) (Presented by Mr. Berryman of Sidney by request)

(Ordered printed.)

Bill "An Act relating to Open Season on Fisher" (H. P. 1060) (Presented by Mr. DeSanctis of Madison)

(Ordered printed.)

Bill "An Act relative to Open Season on Partridge and Pheasants" (H. P. 1061) (Presented by Mr. Palmer of Nobleboro)

(Ordered printed.)

Resolve Providing for a Fish Screen at Outlet of Cobbosseecontee Lake, in the town of Manchester (H. P. 1062) (Presented by Mr. Fowler of Augusta)

(Ordered printed.)

Resolve Closing Wilson Stream in Piscataquis County to All Fishing (H. P. 1063) (Presented by Mr. Rolins of Greenville)

(Ordered printed.)

Resolve Regulating Smelt Dipping in Whetstone Pond in Piscataquis County (H. P. 1064) (Presented by same gentleman)

(Ordered printed.)

Resolve Regulating Smelt Dipping in Sebec Lake, Piscataquis County (H. P. 1065) (Presented by same gentleman)

(Ordered printed.)

Resolve Regulating Ice Fishing in Greenwood Pond in Elliottsville Plantation, Piscataquis County (H. P. 1066) (Presented by same gentleman)

(Ordered printed.)

Resolve Closing Monson Pond Stream in Piscataquis County to All Fishing (H. P. 1067) (Presented by same gentleman)

(Ordered printed.)

Sent up for concurrence.

#### Judiciary

Bill "An Act relating to the Sanitary Water Board" (H. P. 1068) (Presented by Mr. Fuller of Hallowell)

(Ordered printed.)

Bill "An Act relating to Determination of Valuation of Property with Relation to Inheritance Tax" (H. P. 1069) (Presented by Mr. Muskie of Waterville)

(Ordered printed.)

Bill "An Act relating to Liability of Personal Sureties on Probate Bonds" (H. P. 1070) (Presented by same gentleman)

(Ordered printed.)

Bill "An Act with Reference to Pleading and Proving Contributory Negligence" (H. P. 1071) (Presented by Mr. Peirce of Augusta)

(Ordered printed.)

Bill "An Act relating to Lincoln County Law Library" (H. P. 1072) (Presented by Mr. Perkins of Boothbay Harbor)

(Ordered printed.)

Bill "An Act relating to Liquor Commission Inspectors" (H. P. 1073) (Presented by Mr. Williams of Auburn)

(Ordered printed.)

Sent up for concurrence.

#### Legal Affairs

Bill "An Act relating to 'Daylight Saving Time'" (H. P. 1074) (Presented by Mr. MacPherson of Easton)

(Ordered printed.)

Bill "An Act Authorizing Cities and Towns to Assess a Charge for the Use of Sewers and Sewer Systems" (H. P. 1075) (Presented by Mr. Weeks of So. Portland)

(Ordered printed.)

Bill "An Act Authorizing Cities and Towns to Provide for the Collection and Disposal of Garbage, Rubbish and Refuse, and to Assess a Charge Therefor" (H. P. 1076) (Presented by same gentleman)

(Ordered printed.)

Sent up for concurrence.

**Library**

Bill "An Act to Amend the Library Law" (H. P. 1077) (Presented by Mr. Rankin of Bridgton)  
(Ordered printed.)  
Sent up for concurrence.

**Pensions**

Resolve Providing for an Increase in State Pension for Arthur W. Hunt, of Burnham (H. P. 1078) (Presented by Mr. Brown of Unity)

Resolve Granting a Pension to Eugene L. Noyes, of Solon (H. P. 1079) (Presented by Mr. DeSanctis of Madison)

Resolve Providing for an Increase in State Pension for Ethelyn Stewart, of Clinton (H. P. 1080) (Presented by Mr. Hammond of Albion)

Resolve Providing for an Increase in State Pension for Nellie Hatch, of Monmouth (H. P. 1081) (Presented by Mr. Marsans of Monmouth)

Resolve Providing for State Pension for Grace Ingham, of Winthrop (H. P. 1082) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve to Increase the Pension of Josephine M. Storer, of Westbrook (H. P. 1083) (Presented by Mr. Moreau of Westbrook)

Resolve Granting a State Pension to Albert E. Brigham, of Portland (H. P. 1084) (Presented by Mr. Smith of Westbrook)

Sent up for concurrence.

**Salaries and Fees**

Bill "An Act to Increase the Salary of the County Treasurer of Kennebec County" (H. P. 1085) (Presented by Mr. Peirce of Augusta)

(Ordered printed)

Bill "An Act relating to Salary of the Register of Deeds of Kennebec County" (H. P. 1086) (Presented by same gentleman)

(Ordered printed)

Bill "An Act to Increase the Salary of the Register of Deeds of Piscataquis County" (H. P. 1087) (Presented by Mr. Rollins of Greenville)

(Ordered printed)

Bill "An Act Increasing the Salary of the County Commissioners in Penobscot County" (H. P. 1088) (Presented by Mr. Webber of Bangor)

(Ordered printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

**State Lands And Forest Preservation**

Resolve Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey Certain Interest of the State in Lands in Oxford County to Dr. W. B. Twaddle, of Bethel (H. P. 1089) (Presented by Mr. Burton of Milo)  
(Ordered printed)

Resolve Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey Certain Interest of the State in Lands in Aroostook County to Wilfred Rosignol, of Guerette, (P. O. Stockholm) (H. P. 1090) (Presented by Mr. Burton of Milo)  
(Ordered printed)

Resolve Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey Certain Interest of the State in Lands in Oxford County to Dr. W. B. Twaddle, of Bethel (H. P. 1091) (Presented by same gentleman)  
(Ordered printed)

Resolve Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey Certain Interest of the State in Lands in Aroostook County to Fred Marquis, of Sinclair (H. P. 1092) (Presented by Mr. Dufour of St. Agatha)  
(Ordered printed)

Resolve Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey Certain Interest of the State in Lands in Aroostook County to Jules St. Peter, of Guerette (H. P. 1093) (Presented by same gentleman)  
(Ordered printed)

Resolve Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey Certain Interest of the State in Lands in Aroostook County to Fred B. Simpson, of Bangor (H. P. 1094) (Presented by same gentleman)  
(Ordered printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

**Sea and Shore Fisheries**

Bill "An Act relating to Measurement of Herring" (H. P. 1095) (Presented by Mr. Ames of Northport)

(Ordered printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

**Taxation**

Bill "An Act relating to Taxation of Domestic Fowl" (H. P. 1096) (Presented by Mr. Brown of Unity)

(Ordered printed)

Resolve relating to Revision of Property Tax Laws (H. P. 1097) (Presented by Mr. Chase of Cape Elizabeth)

(Ordered printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

**Temperance**

Bill "An Act to Prevent Minors from Remaining on Premises Where Liquor is Consumed" (H. P. 1098) (Presented by Mr. Malenfant of Lewiston)

(Ordered printed)

Bill "An Act to Prohibit Music, Dancing or Entertainment on Certain Premises Licensed for the Sale of Liquor" (H. P. 1099) (Presented by Mr. Williams of Auburn)

(Ordered printed)

Bill "An Act relating to Hotel and Restaurant Malt Liquor Licenses" (H. P. 1100) (Presented by same gentleman)

(Ordered printed)

Bill "An Act to Regulate Eligibility of Premises for which Liquor Licenses May be Granted" (H. P. 1101) (Presented by same gentleman)

(Ordered printed)

Bill "An Act Changing the Definition of a Restaurant for Liquor License Purposes" (H. P. 1102) (Presented by same gentleman)

(Ordered printed)

Bill "An Act relating to Licenses for 'On Premise' Sale of Malt Liquor" (H. P. 1103) (Presented by same gentleman)

(Ordered printed)

Bill "An Act relating to Sale of Liquor to Minors" (H. P. 1104) (Presented by same gentleman)

(Ordered printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

**Ways and Bridges**

Bill "An Act relating to Town Road Improvement Fund" (H. P. 1105) (Presented by Mr. Patterson of Freeport by request)

(Ordered printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Resolve in favor of the town of Talmadge (H. P. 1106) (Presented by Mr. Brown of Baileyville)

Resolve in favor of the town of Baileyville (H. P. 1107) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Princeton (H. P. 1108) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of Grand Lake Stream Plantation (H. P. 1109) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Vanceboro (H. P. 1110) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Waite (H. P. 1111) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of

Danforth (H. P. 1112) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of Topsfield Plantation (H. P. 1113) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of Topsfield Plantation (H. P. 1114) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Hudson (H. P. 1115) (Presented by Mr. Elliott of Corinth)

Resolve in favor of the town of Gilead (H. P. 1116) (Presented by Mr. Daniels of Gilead)

Resolve in favor of the town of Bradford (H. P. 1117) (Presented by Mr. Elliott of Corinth)

Resolve in favor of the town of Jonesport (H. P. 1118) (Presented by Mr. Hanson of Machiasport)

Resolve in favor of the town of Phillips (H. P. 1119) (Presented by Mr. Jennings of Strong)

Resolve in favor of the town of Dover-Foxcroft (H. P. 1120) (Presented by Mr. Lee of Dover-Foxcroft)

Resolve in favor of the town of Sangerville (H. P. 1121) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Dover-Foxcroft (H. P. 1122) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Westfield (H. P. 1123) (Presented by Mr. MacPherson of Easton)

Resolve in favor of the town of Westfield (H. P. 1124) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the city of Westbrook (H. P. 1125) (Presented by Mr. Moreau of Westbrook)

Resolve in favor of the town of Brownville (H. P. 1126) (Presented by Mr. Ross of Brownville Jct.)

Resolve in favor of the town of Gouldsboro (H. P. 1127) (Presented by Mr. Silsby of Aurora)

Resolve in favor of the town of Sorrento (H. P. 1128) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Winter Harbor (H. P. 1129) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Newport (H. P. 1130) (Presented by Mr. Smith of Exeter)

Resolve in favor of Boy Scouts of America (H. P. 1131) (Presented by Mr. Thompson of Brewer)

Resolve in favor of the city of Brewer (H. P. 1132) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Grand Isle (H. P. 1133) (Presented by Mr. Violette of Van Buren)

Resolve in favor of the town of Woolwich (H. P. 1134) (Presented by Mr. Williams of Topsham)

Resolve in favor of the town of Woolwich (H. P. 1135) (Presented by same gentleman)

Sent up for concurrence.

#### Welfare

Bill "An Act relating to Expense of Patients in Mental Hospitals" (H. P. 1136) (Presented by Mr. Judkins of Woodstock by request)

(Ordered printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

On motion by Miss Longstaff of Crystal, House Rule 25 was suspended for the remainder of today's session, in order to permit smoking.

#### Orders

On motion by Mr. Allen of Portland, it was

ORDERED, that there be printed 300 additional copies of H. P. 610, L. D. 375, An Act Creating a State Board of Examiners of Electricians and Defining its Powers and Duties.

On motion by Mr. Burgess of Limestone, it was

ORDERED, that there be printed 1000 additional copies of H. P. 634, L. D. 414, An Act Reducing Real Estate Taxes, and Providing Additional Highway Funds.

#### House Reports of Committees Leave to Withdraw

Mr. Byron from the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game on Bill "An Act relating to Propagation Funds in Department of Inland Fisheries and Game" (H. P. 240) (L. D. 169) reported leave to withdraw.

#### Ought Not to Pass

Mr. Fuller from the Committee on Education reported "Ought not to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to State Aid for Industrial Courses in Elementary Schools, High Schools and Academies" (H. P. 5) (L. D. 5)

Mr. Silsby from the Committee on Judiciary reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Inactive Accounts of Former Inmates and Patients of State Institutions" (H. P. 243) (L. D. 171)

Reports were read and accepted and sent up for concurrence.

#### Ought to Pass in New Draft

Mr. Ross from the Committee on Interior Waters on Bill "An Act Releasing to the City of Bangor the State's Interest in the Bed of Kenduskeag Stream in said Bangor" (H. P. 54) (L. D. 43) reported same in a new draft (H. P. 1137) under same title and that it "Ought to pass"

Report was read and accepted and the new draft ordered printed under the Joint Rules.

#### Ought to Pass with Committee Amendment

Mr. Jordan from the Committee on Mercantile Affairs and Insurance on Bill "An Act relating to Time Limit for Adjusting and Paying Fire Losses" (H. P. 66) (L. D. 51) reported "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Report was read and accepted and the Bill, having already been printed was read twice under suspension of the rules.

Committee Amendment "A" was read by the Clerk as follows:

Committee Amendment "A" to H. P. 66, L. D. 51, Bill, "An Act Relating to Time Limit for Adjusting and Paying Fire Losses".

Amend said bill by adding at the end thereof the following underlined words, "In any statute relating to fire insurance or in any policy of fire insurance reference to the date of loss or the time when a loss occurs shall mean the day of the fire against which the policy insures".

Committee Amendment "A" was adopted and tomorrow assigned for third reading of the Bill.

#### Passed to Be Engrossed

Bill "An Act relating to Free Hunting, Trapping and Fishing Licenses for Indians" (S. P. 27) (L. D. 1)

Bill "An Act relating to the Abatement of Taxes" (H. P. 39) (L. D. 30)

Bill "An Act relating to Exemptions from Taxation" (H. P. 192) (L. D. 137)

Resolve Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey Certain Interest of the State in Lands in Aroostook County to Gerard Albert of St. Agatha (H. P. 130) (L. D. 86)

Resolve Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey Certain Interest of the State in Lands in Aroostook County to Woodbury D.

Berce, of Washburn (H. P. 131) (L. D. 87)

Resolve Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey Certain Interest of the State in Lands in Aroostook County to Sylvio Guerette, of Guerette (H. P. 132) (L. D. 88)

Resolve Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey Certain Interest of the State in Lands in Washington County to Harvey F. Sprague, of Dennyville (H. P. 136) (L. D. 92)

Resolve Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey Certain Land in Franklin County to Timberlands, Inc., of Dixfield (H. P. 190) (L. D. 154)

Resolve Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey Certain Interest of the State in Lands in Penobscot County to Carl J. Kennedy of Milford (H. P. 269) (L. D. 192)

Resolve Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey Certain Interest of the State in Lands in Lincoln County to Chester Poland of Loudville (H. P. 354) (L. D. 224)

Resolve Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey Certain Interest of the State in Lands in Oxford County to Myron E. Morrill, of Bethel (H. P. 472) (L. D. 304)

Resolve Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey Certain Interest of the State in Lands in Oxford County to Calvin Cummings of Bethel (H. P. 270) (L. D. 193)

Resolve Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey Certain Interest of the State in Lands in Penobscot County to Nelson Myrick of Lowell (H. P. 352) (L. D. 221)

Resolve Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey Certain Interest of the State in Lands in Aroostook County to Alice Cassidy of Oxbow, Maine (H. P. 473) (L. D. 305)

Resolve Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey Certain Interest of the State in Lands in Franklin County to Richard S. York of Wilton (H. P. 474) (L. D. 306)

Were reported by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading, Bills read the third time, Resolves read the second time, all passed to be engrossed and sent to the Senate.

#### Tabled

Resolve Granting a Pension to Annie M. Adams of North Edgecomb (H. P. 6) (L. D. 637)

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading, and on motion by Mr. Brewer of Presque Isle, tabled pending passage to be engrossed.

#### Tabled

Resolve in favor of George E. Leatherbarrow of Saco (H. P. 112) (L. D. 638)

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading, and on motion by Mr. Brewer of Presque Isle, tabled pending passage to be engrossed.

#### Amended Bill

Resolve Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey Certain Interest of the State in Lands in Washington County to Harry L. Wheelden, of Bangor (H. P. 268) (L. D. 191)

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading, read the second time, passed to be engrossed as amended and sent to the Senate.

#### Passed to Be Enacted

An Act relating to Trustee Process Against Banks (S. P. 41) (L. D. 15)

An Act relating to Change of Purposes of Corporations Without Capital Stock (S. P. 52) (L. D. 24)

An Act Increasing the Salary of Mayor of the City of Gardiner (S. P. 61) (L. D. 37)

An Act relating to the Right of Safe Deposit Companies to Open Safe or Box (S. P. 83) (L. D. 109)

An Act Limiting Actions by Depositors to Recover Money Paid on Forged Signatures (S. P. 84) (L. D. 110)

An Act relating to Examination of Domestic Companies (H. P. 93) (L. D. 73)

An Act Providing for Reappointment of Active Retired Justices (H. P. 116) (L. D. 80)

An Act Permitting the Building of a Bridge Between Burnt Island and Spruce Head Island (H. P. 117) (L. D. 81)

Were reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed, passed to be enacted, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

#### Orders of the Day

The SPEAKER: The Chair lays before the House L. D. 481, H. P. 832, Bill "An Act to Institute a Land Use Survey", tabled earlier in today's



session by the gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase, pending further consideration; and the Chair recognizes that gentleman.

Mr. CHASE: Mr. Speaker, I should be reluctant to take the time of the House on a matter of procedure or reference of the bill if it were not for the fact that I believe that there is involved in this matter of reference an important principle which is of concern to every member of the House, a principle which is more important, in my opinion, than the fate of my bill itself, and that principle is whether the Legislature in its committee work wants its bills to be referred to those committees most intimately concerned with the content of the bill or whether it wants to continue to emphasize the legal phases of bills and to continue to send bills which appear to be important to legal committees which, by their appointment, have generally been composed almost entirely of lawyers.

Boy and man, I have been around the Legislature since 1909, and throughout that period there has always existed two alternates in the Legislature through the reference of bills to two legal committees. The layman's committees of the House, such as the Committee on Agriculture, to whom this bill was referred in the House, and with which action the Senate did not concur; committees composed of laymen, such as the Committee on Agriculture, sit around all winter cooling their heels while two committees of lawyers try to deal with a flood of legislation which is put upon them.

Now if there were in this bill any matter of a technical, legal character, I would concede the justice of argument that it should be referred to the Committee on Judiciary. There are other factors involved in it than agriculture. It also has to do with a forest survey or investigation through the fact of land use. I note this morning a bill to provide for a forest survey was sent to the Committee on Appropriations because it carried an appropriation.

Now this bill deals with an investigation of the efficient use of land. I think it is reasonable to say that the members of the Committee on Agriculture in this House know more about the efficient use of land than do the members in this House of the Committee on Judiciary, and it is natural that they should, so that so far as the merits of the case are

concerned they ought to know more about land use, and furthermore I submit that they have a great deal more time to deal with the issues involved in this bill and to consider this bill on the question of its merit. For that reason I think it is my duty since I believe that the layman's committees in the House should have their work increased and that that work should be taken away from the legal committees so far as possible, in order to equalize the work; I think it is my duty since this bill does present that question of reference, to put it before the House on that basis as a test case of the opinion of the House whether you do want bills referred to the committee which is supposed to be able to deal with the merits of the case and the subject matter of the bill or whether we want to continue this procedure of straining practically every important bill in the Legislature, no matter to what it relates, through to these committees. It is for that reason that I make this motion that the House insist and ask for a committee of conference. The action in the House, you will remember, was to refer this bill to the Committee on Agriculture. The Senate disagreed and referred it to the Committee on Judiciary. I move that the House insist and ask for a committee of conference.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase, moves that the House insist and requests a committee of conference.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Mills.

Mr. MILLS: Mr. Speaker, I do not rise this morning in defense of the legal profession because I know that we are hopelessly outnumbered. I know that we are favorite whipping boy of most laymen in the Legislature, especially when the Judiciary Committee or Legal Affairs Committee turns out an "Ought not to Pass" on a bill which happens to be a pet bill of a particular member.

We follow in the Reference of Bills Committee precedent pretty much. Bills come in and we determine where they have gone in past legislatures; there are no written rules as to how the bills shall be referred. Naturally we try to please the entire membership. If there is dissatisfaction with the way we refer bills, we wish to conform to what you want because we are your committee and we wish to serve you.

If we are prejudiced in favor of lawyers we wish to correct that prejudice.

I wish that some of you members would refer to L. D. 481. If ever a bill came before this Legislature which enacted multifarious matters and multitudes of functions of State involving considerable complicated matter of policy in the future, this bill does it.

This bill attempts to say that we wish to have the Maine Development Commission set up a policy to tell the next Legislature what it can do in various matters. It involves very little of agriculture. It involves the Forestry Department and the Maine Development Commission. It involves the schools of the State. It does involve agriculture. It involves ways and bridges. It involves general policy. It involves an appropriation of \$20,000.

Let me say this: We make mistakes in the Reference of Bills Committee. We are not infallible. If I were looking at this anew today I might say the Appropriations Committee because of the appropriation of \$20,000. As the members well know, the Committee on Appropriations has a sharper axe than the Committee on Judiciary, and it might have a shorter life than in Judiciary perhaps. I am not attempting to prejudge the bill.

In the interest of progressive legislation and progressive procedure, I would think that the thing to do would be for the House to concur with the Senate. I am not making that motion, Mr. Speaker, because I do not wish to present a motion which would take precedence over the previous motion.

In the interest of getting this bill before a committee and seeing to it that it has a continued life, I would say we should concur with the Senate and send it along to committee. If it goes into a Committee of Conference and they are deadlocked the bill may die right there. However, I wish to see a fair vote on this. We are not jealous of our prerogatives in the reference of bills. We do make mistakes. We would like to hear from the members about their own bills as to where they would like to have them referred and I am sure the members of the committee would give you a frank answer as to the policy of the committee. I know we tread on many toes and probably will continue to do so,

but we are trying to operate for the Legislature as a whole in accordance with established principles. I hope that the motion does not prevail.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lubec, Mr. Prout.

Mr. PROUT: Mr. Speaker and Members: On this bill pertaining to survey of land use, I believe it pertains more to Agriculture than it does to Judiciary, or the bill might pertain more to Forestry than to Agriculture. I still do not believe it is a Judiciary bill. One member said that we sit here all winter and one or two committees hear the majority of the bills. I do not see anything in this bill that pertains to Judiciary. I hope the motion of the gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase, prevails.

The SPEAKER: Is the House ready for the question? The gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase, moves that the House insist and requests a Committee of Conference.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Brewer, Mr. Thompson.

Mr. THOMPSON: Mr. Speaker, I ask for a division.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Brewer, Mr. Thompson, asks for a division. All those in favor of the motion of the gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase, that the House insist and ask for a Committee of Conference will rise and stand in their places until counted and the monitors will make and return the count.

A division of the House was had.

Sixty-one having voted in the affirmative and 42 in the negative, the motion prevailed.

The SPEAKER: The Chair will appoint on that committee the gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase, the gentleman from Gardiner, Mr. Tabb and the gentleman from Lubec, Mr. Prout.

The SPEAKER: The House is proceeding under Orders of the Day. The dead line for the presentation of all bills and resolves will be at twelve o'clock noon today. The House has received up to this date approximately thirteen hundred matters. There are a number of other bills and resolves which are in the hands of the Revisor of Statutes.

A number of you new members may perhaps wonder how you are going to be able to keep track of all

these various matters which have been presented to the House. You will, without doubt, watch your own resolves and bills and your committee clerks will take care of other matters for you, but there will come a time when somebody will ask you what has happened to this or that matter and you perhaps may not know how to get the information together. We have in the Clerk's office an index system which is perhaps one of the best in the country. That index system is intended for the benefit of all members. Any time a member has a matter which he would like to check on instantly, if the member will simply go in and ask Mrs. Strout or Mrs. Fellows and tell them their problem, the Speaker is sure much valuable time will be saved. The member may not know

the document number or the title of the bill and he may have only a vague idea of what the content of the bill is, but if the member will go in to the Clerk's office, by their index system which they maintain, in a very, very few moments any member will be able to obtain complete information. The members should certainly take advantage of that index system.

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 The SPEAKER: If there is no further business to come before the House, the Clerk will read the notices.

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 On motion by Mr. Weeks of South Portland,

Adjourned until ten o'clock tomorrow morning.